

## Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AID-20 L-03 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01

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R 010044Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7236

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 5648

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: ELAB, MX

SUBJECT: AFL-CIO STOPS FUNDS TO ORIT

1. ARTURO JAUREGUI, SECGEN ORIT RECEIVED LETTER FROM GEORGE MEANY ON JULY 30 SUBSTANCE OF WHICH STRONGLY ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF ALL ORIT PROGRAMS NOT ALREADY IN ACTION PENDING NEW FINANCIAL AUDIT ALL ORIT ASSETS. JAUREGUI ANGRY OVER TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF LETTER BUT IS PREPARING ANSWER. LABATT HAS NOT READ MEANY-JAUREGUI LETTER BUT JAUREGUI HAD IT IN FRONT OF HIM WHILE HE MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

(1) MEANY AGREED INCREASE AFL-CIO SUPPORT TO ORIT DURING ORIT EXBD MEETING IN WASHINGTON APRIL 1973. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT ADDITIONAL AFL-CIO FINANCIAL SUPPORT WAS CONDITIONED ON OTHER ORIT AFFILIATES INCREASING THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT. HOWEVER, THIS TAKES TIME.

(2) ORIT FINANCES RECENTLY AUDITED BY PRICE WATERHOUSE TO SATISFACTION ALL AFFILIATES INCLUDING AFL-CIO. THEREFORE, ORIT WILL NOT SUBMIT ITSELF TO ANOTHER AUDIT. BESIDES, AN AUDIT WOULD COST TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS WHICH AFL-CIO DID NOT OFFER TO PAY.

(3) ORIT HAS ALREADY REDUCED STAFF TO TEN AND STOPPED MUCH ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITY. FOR EXAMPLE, ORIT HAS REDUCED ISSUANCE OF PUBLICATIONS, ELIMINATED ALL REPRESENTATION, AND TRANSFERRED

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FIVE OR SIX STAFF PEOPLE TO OTHER ORIT ACCOUNTS SUCH AS

TRADEUNION INSTITUTE CUERNAVACA AND ICFTU SUPPORTED FIELD PROGRAM.

(4) JAUREGUI WILL REFUSE PERSONAL SALARY FROM JULY 1973 UNTIL HIS RESIGNATION AT MAY 1974 ORTI CONGRESS.

(5) INTERAMERICAN CAMPESPNO LABOR MEETING STARTS IN VENEZUELA AUGUST 6, 1973. MARXISTS, CHRISTIANS AND ORIT INVITED. ORIT NOW WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND.

(6) IF AND WHEN MEANY-JAUREGUI LETTER BECOMES KNOWN BY MEXICAN CTM LEADERS AND OTHER LA LABOR LEADERS, IT IS LIKELY THEY WILL CEASE RELATIONS WITH AFL-CIO. IT IS ALSO LIKELY THEY WILL CEASE RELATIONS WITH AMERICAN SPONSORED ITS PROGRAMS AND AIFLD.

(7) MEANY'S INSINUATION THAT JAUREGUI NOT A COMPETENT ADMINISTRATOR FOLLOWED BY FREEZING OF FUTURE AFL-CIO DUES PAYMENTS TO ORIT WILL AMUSE ICFTU.

(8) ORIT ABLE TO CUT BUDGET BY CURTAILING ACTIVITY, PERSONNEL, AND SALARIES, BUT NOT ABLE TO ERASE DEBT EVEN WITH PROMISED INCREASE FROM AFL-CIO.

2. COMMENT: ORIT'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS WELL KNOWN BUT MEANY-JAUREGUI LETTER COULD HAVE DISASTROUS EFFECT ON RELATIONS BETWEEN CTM AND AFL-CIO. HIGHLY UNLIKELY THIS LETTER WILL REMAIN PRIVATE WHICH PRESENTS REAL POSSIBILITY OF IT BEING USED BY ANTI-US ELEMENTS IN MEXICO AND THROUGHOUT HEMISPHERE BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE OF ORGANIZED LABOR.  
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